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REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration and reexamination of this application are requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Claims 1 and 2 are hereby amended, and are pending.

Claims 1 and 2 are amended by changing "and" to "from" in reply to the Examiner's comments in the Advisory Action. In addition, the language "adapted to be" has been deleted.

Claims 1-2 are rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Miyazawa (US 5,554,914). Applicants respectfully traverse.

With respect to claim 1, Miyazawa does not disclose a steering apparatus including first and second drive circuits that each includes a switching element adapted to be switched on and off at a control frequency, and a controller for differentiating the control frequency at which said switching element of the first drive circuit is switched on and off from the control frequency at which said switching element of said second drive circuit is switched on and off.

Figures 12F and 12G of Miyazawa show the driving pulses for the motors 64, 66. From the figures, it appears that the drive pulses for the two motors operate with the same duty cycles. Further, the pulses in Figures 12F and 12G are the pulses directed to the motors from the driving circuits 60, 62. Figures 12F and 12G do not illustrate the control frequency at which a switching element of the first drive circuit is switched on and off, or the control frequency at which a switching element of the second drive circuit is switched on and off. Therefore, Miyazawa does not disclose a controller that differentiates one control frequency of a first drive circuit from a control frequency of a second drive circuit.

Further, with respect to claims 1 and 2, Miyazawa does not disclose a steering system of a vehicle. The Advisory Action asserts that "vehicle" is broad and that, as broadly construed, a robot is a vehicle. Applicants traverse. Although an Examiner is permitted to interpret language broadly, the interpretation must be reasonable and consistent with the specification. MPEP 2111. Applicant's specification clearly

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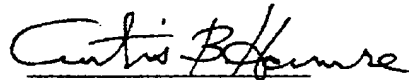
indicates that the vehicle is a motor vehicle (see, e.g., page 7, line 6) and provides at least one example of a specific type of vehicle (see, e.g., page 7, line 6). Interpreting the meaning of "vehicle" consistent with the specification, it is evident that the meaning of "vehicle" would not include micro robot having a size of about 1 cm³. Applicant's respectfully submit that interpreting the robot of Miyazawa as a "vehicle" is neither reasonable nor consistent with Applicant's specification.

For at least these reasons, claims 1 and 2 are patentable over Miyazawa.

In view of the above, early issuance of a notice of allowance is solicited. Any questions regarding this communication can be directed to the undersigned attorney, Curtis B. Hamre, Reg. 29,165, at (612)455-3802.

Respectfully Submitted,

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